'Change of Course' by Castro Seen

Post 1-8-76

Associated Press

Rep. Charles W. Whalen Jr. (R-Ohio), who reported last summer that Cuban Premier Fidel Castro wanted detente with the United States, now says it is clear that for some reason Castro has changed course.

President Ford said last month that the thousands of pro-Communist Cuban troops in Angola have "destroyed the opportunity for improvement of relations with the United States." The chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, John J. Sparkman (D-Ala.), has expressed a similar view.

Whalen, a member of the House International Relations Committee, said Castro told him in July that he wanted to co-exist with the United States and resume trade.

"It just seems to me they've changed course," Whalen said, "and at this point I don't know why."

But Whalen said lack of friendly U.S.-Cuban relations is no longer "any great loss," because of the vote by the United States and other members of the Organization of American States last July to end the OAS trade embargo and let each country make its own decision on whether to restore relations with Cuba.

Anderson Opposes Angola Assistance

ROCKFORD, Ill. Jan. 7 (UPI)—Rep. John B. Anderson of Illinois, third-ranking Republican in the House, says he does not think the United States should be involved in Angola's civil war.

"I intend to support, myself, the effort that will be made in the House when we reconvene to ratify the Senate action that would cut out any further military assistance," Anderson said Tuesday night.